



URBAN DISTRICT OF
WOMBWELL



REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH AND SANITARY
ADMINISTRATION
OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1945

BY

J. C. PICKUP

M.B., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS—(Continued).

Bacteriological Work	31
Tuberculosis	28
Statistics	18
Zymotic Death Rate	18
Tuberculosis Dispensary	10
Infectious Disease Hospital	8

Maternity and Child Welfare

Statistics	35
Deaths in Age Groups	33
Neo-Natal Death Rate	33
Causes of Infant Deaths	16
Illegitimate Death Rate	17
Maternity and Child Welfare	32
Maternal Mortality	34
Maternity Homes	9
Premature Infants	41
Head Lice	42
Scabies	42
Sunlight Centre	36
Home Helps	36
Grants to necessitous Mothers and Children	36
Visits by Health Visitors	35

Housing :

Number of Houses	6
Repairs to Houses	49

Salvage :	50
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Public Health Committee :

Chairman of Council : Councillor F. Collindridge, J.P.

Chairman : County Alderman J. W. Mellor, J.P.

Messrs. Councillors T. Bird, C. Boocock, T. Bradley,

Mrs. E. Mellor, J. Rose and E. Wainwright.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee :

Chairman of Council : Councillor F. Collindridge, J.P.

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. E. Mellor.

Messrs. Councillors C. Boocock, H. Copeland, J. A. Hall,
C.B.E., J.P., and P. Turner.

(Mrs. A. Smith and Mrs. M. Walker, co-opted members).

Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent of Infant
Welfare Clinics and Medical Officer of Ray Therapy Clinic,
Ante-Natal Clinic and Wombwell and Jump Infant Welfare
Clinics :

J. C. Pickup, M.B., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.

Chief Sanitary Inspector : H. Ward, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Superintendent Health Nurse : E. Barlow, S.R.N.

Health Visitors' Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute,
Certified Midwife.

Second Nurse : F. Whittlestone, S.R.N.,

Approved Health Visitor, Certified Midwife.

Third Nurse : E. Taylor, S.R.N., Certified Midwife.

Additional Sanitary Inspector : Jack Finney, Cert.S.I.B.,
M.S.I.A.

Pupil Sanitary Inspector : Derek Bamford.

Senior Clerk : Kathleen M. Cawley.

Junior Clerk : Dinah Lilley.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOMBWELL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN HALL,
WOMBWELL,
July, 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wombwell Urban District Council.

Councillor Mrs. Mellor and Gentlemen,

This is my twenty-sixth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Urban District.

The birth rate shows a decrease - 20.4 per 1,000, as compared with 23.9 in 1944. The death rate is 11.9 as compared with 9.4 in 1944. The infantile death rate shows an increase - 69.6 as against 50.4 in 1944.

This year the death rate which is recorded is the crude death rate and not the adjusted death rate as the Registrar General is not this year supplying districts with a comparability factor.

As regards Infectious Disease, the chief one demanding attention was an epidemic of Measles which affected the district during the first three months of the year. There were three deaths from this disease.

I have to thank all the members of my staff for the ever willing help which they have given me and I wish to express my thanks for the courtesy and kindness extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and Infant Welfare Committee.

I am,

Your obedient servant,
J. C. PICKUP.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1945.

Latitude 53° 31 North.	Longitude 1° 24 West
Average height above sea level	200 feet
Area of Urban District	3850 acres
Population at Census 1911	17,538
Population at Census 1921	19,035
Population at Census 1931	18,365
Population estimated by Registrar General for 1945 (mid-year)	17,540
Excess of Births over Deaths for 1945	150
Number of houses occupied at the end of 1945	4,888
Number of houses occupied at the end of 1921	3,707
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	4,221 (approx.)
Rateable Value	£63,680
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£238

Births.	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	332	163	169
Illegitimate	27	20	7
Birth Rate		20.4 per 1,000	

Deaths.

Death Rates of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate 72.2.	Illegitimate 37.	Total 69.6.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		3
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		2
Death Rate		11.9 per 1,000
Deaths Rate, Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	7 (0.39 per 1,000)	
Death Rate, Zymotic Diseases	6 (0.34 per 1,000)	
Death Rate, Respiratory Diseases	25 (1.4 per 1,000)	
Infantile Death Rate		69.6 per 1,000
Death Rate from Cancer		26 (1.4 per 1,000)

	Cases	Case Rate	Deaths	Death Rate
Scarlet Fever ...	41	2.3	0	0.0
Diphtheria ...	13	0.74	0	0.0
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	0	0.0
Pulmonary				
Tuberculosis ...	18	1.2	7	0.39
Other Forms of				
Tuberculosis ...	2	0.11	3	0.16

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOMBWELL.

Natural and Social Conditions.

Area.

3,850 acres.

Population.

The population of the Urban District disclosed by the last census (1931) is 18,365.

The estimated population of the Registrar-General for mid-year 1945 is 17,540.

The census of 1921 showed a population of 19,035.

The Registrar's figures since the census of 1931 have been :—

1932	18,320
1933	18,230
1934	18,020
1935	17,960
1936	17,780
1937	17,710
1938	17,780
1939	17,830
1940	17,060
1941	17,130
1942	16,920
1943	16,870
1944	17,360
1945	17,540

This year's population gives an average number of persons per house of 3.5.

The estimated population in the various wards of the Urban District is given below :—

S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
2329	5592	3223	2633	3763

Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value of the district in 1945 was £63,680 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £238.

Natural Conditions.

The soil consists of marl and clay with a sandy sub-soil resting on the shales and sand-stones of the coal measures. The surface is undulating and the average height above sea level is 200 feet.

Principal Industries.

The chief occupations of the population are coal mining, glass bottle making, the manufacture of bye-products from coal, engineering and printing - the coal mining being by far the largest source of employment.

I am indebted to Mr. H. Williams, District Welfare Officer for the following particulars of the amount of Relief for the year 1945 :—

Quarter Ended			Ordinary						Able-Bodied					
1945			Cash			Kind			Cash			Kind		
31st March	3229	2	6	114	14	2	—	—	—	1	5	0
30th June	3140	8	6	138	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
30th September	2975	2	3	143	8	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
31st December	3318	13	0	152	19	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
			<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>		
			12663	6	3	549	9	5	—	—	—	1	5	0
			<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>		

The above totals include extra Relief granted for V. Day and Christmas.

For the purpose of the Poor Law, your district is now (under the Local Government Act) within the Staincross Union of the West Riding County Council.

For the purposes of Infectious Disease your Authority contribute to the maintenance of the Brierley Hospital.

Your Authority arranged to become one of the constituent authorities of the Hemsworth Hospital Committee as from the 1st April, 1935.

For small-pox your authority contribute for the reception of your cases by the Tadcaster and District Small-pox Hospital Committee.

The colliery accidents in your district mostly go to the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley.

Surgical and Medical cases mostly go to the Sheffield Royal Infirmary, the Sheffield Royal Hospital, the Leeds Infirmary and also the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley.

Gynaecological cases requiring operation mostly go to the Jessop Hospital and cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia and difficult cases of midwifery are now admitted to the Jessop Hospital at an agreed fee to be paid by your authority.

Maternity cases are now admitted to the County Maternity Hospital, Mexborough, at a fee paid by your Council where the income falls below a certain level. Several cases have taken advantage of this arrangement during the year.

Medical and Surgical diseases in children are taken to the Children's Hospital, Sheffield.

All these non-infectious Hospitals are supported by voluntary subscriptions.

The Poor Law cases from this district still go to the Municipal Hospital, Barnsley, by arrangement with the Barnsley Corporation.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Brierley Hospital provide the Ambulance for the conveyance of infectious cases from your district to that hospital. Similarly the ambulance at the Selby Small-pox Hospital is used for conveying Wombwell cases to that hospital. The various collieries within your district provide ambulances for the conveying of their accident cases to the hospitals or to their homes.

Your Council's ambulances are used free of cost by Wombwell people for all cases not coming under any of the heads mentioned above.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary and Venereal Diseases Dispensary serving the Wombwell district are situate at Church Street and Queen's Road, Barnsley. Both these services are, of course, administered by the West Riding County Council.

The chief Sanatoria to which patients from your district are admitted are :—

Middleton Sanatorium (Ilkley).	Oakbank Open Air School (Seven Oaks).
Deanhead Sanatorium.	Carrgate Sanatorium.
Cardigan Sanatorium	Morton Banks Sanatorium, (Keighley).
Oakwood Sanatorium	Mitchell Memorial Sanatorium, (Rawdon).
Eldwick Sanatorium	Horn Hall (Stanhope, Durham).
Wensleydale Sanatorium (Aysgarth)	East Anglia Sanatorium.
Bowden Sanatorium	Shropshire Orthopoedic Hospital.
Highwood, Sanatorium, Brentwood.	Meathop Sanatorium, Grange.
King Edward VII Hospital, Sheffield.	King Edward Sanatorium, (Midhurst).
Stannington Sanatorium, Clifton.	East Lancashire T.B. Colony, (Great Barrow, Chester).
Wyton Hostel, Huntingdon.	

During the year 6 cases were admitted into and 10 cases discharged from these Sanatoria.

The Dispensary and Sanatoria are subsidised by the County Council.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

	Situation	Nature of Accommodation	Provided by
Wombwell Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	Free Library	2 rooms	Wombwell Council
Jump Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	Miners' Welfare Hall	1 large room	do.
Day Nurseries	Nil	—	—
School Clinics	Free Library	2 rooms	County Council
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Church St., Barnsley.	Whole Building	do.
Venereal Clinic	Queen's Road, Barnsley.	do.	do.
Ray Therapy Clinic	Free Library	2 rooms	Wombwell Council
Ante-natal Clinic	do.	do.	do.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of births registered during the year was 359 (comprising 183 males and 176 females).

The birth rate was 20.4 as compared with 23.9 for 1944.

Excess of Births over Deaths.

The excess of births over deaths, or what is generally spoken of as "the natural increase of population" was 150 as compared with 252 last year. The balance on the year's working was therefore 0.8 per cent. of the whole population.

	Excess of Births over Deaths — Wombwell.	Population Wombwell
1933	144	18,230
1934	147	18,020
1935	156	17,960
1936	110	17,780
1937	112	17,710
1938	127	17,780
1939	152	17,830
1940	107	17,060
1941	171	17,130
1942	132	16,920
1943	216	16,870
1944	252	17,360
1945	150	17,540

BIRTH RATE.

	Males	Females	No. of Births	Birth Rate Wombwell	England & Wales
1933	162	174	336	18.4	14.4
1934	155	165	320	17.7	14.8
1935	163	163	326	18.1	14.7
1936	144	157	301	16.9	14.8
1937	142	162	304	17.1	14.9
1938	163	154	317	17.8	15.1
1939	160	166	326	18.2	15.0
1940	160	159	319	18.6	14.6
1941	169	173	342	19.9	14.2
1942	160	165	325	19.2	15.8
1943	221	169	390	23.1	16.5
1944	218	198	416	23.9	17.6
1945	183	176	359	20.4	16.1

BIRTHS IN THE WARDS.

Year	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.	Total
1933	60	94	68	44	70	336
1934	57	94	55	49	65	320
1935	65	82	48	65	66	326
1936	54	76	52	54	65	301
1937	58	76	54	57	59	304
1938	44	78	64	44	86	317
1939	48	89	56	51	82	326
1940	42	104	59	51	63	319
1941	45	125	58	46	68	342
1942	46	98	58	51	72	325
1943	53	128	74	56	79	390
1944	75	117	73	56	95	416
1945	56	112	63	53	75	359

The distribution in the Wards is as follows :—

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
Males	31	56	31	23	38
Females	25	56	32	30	37
	—	—	—	—	—
	56	112	63	53	75
	—	—	—	—	—

Of the total births, 27 (20 males and 7 females) or 7.5 per cent. were registered as being illegitimate.

The ratio of illegitimate births to legitimate ones was 1 to 12.29.

Year	Illegitimate		Illegitimate Births - per cent. of Nett		Rate per 1,000
	Births	Population	Registered	Births Registered	Estimated Population
1933	9	18,230	336	2.6	0.49
1934	15	18,020	320	4.6	0.83
1935	8	17,960	326	2.4	0.44
1936	9	17,780	301	2.9	0.5
1937	15	17,710	304	4.9	0.84
1938	10	17,780	317	3.1	0.56
1939	15	17,830	326	4.6	0.8
1940	9	17,060	319	2.8	0.5
1941	11	17,130	342	3.2	0.6
1942	15	16,920	325	4.6	0.8
1943	13	16,870	390	3.3	0.7
1944	17	17,360	416	4.08	0.9
1945	27	17,540	359	7.5	1.5

Deaths.

The total deaths amounted to 209 including deaths of residents dying outside the district and excluding non-residents who died in the district. They consisted of 121 males and 88 females.

Distributed in the Wards they were as follows :

		S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
Males	20	33	21	18	31
Females	8	33	16	14	15
		—	—	—	—	—
		28	66	37	32	46
		—	—	—	—	—

This gives a total death rate of 11.9 per 1,000 which is 2.5 more than last year which was our lowest rate and one more than the average of the last 5 years.

The death rate last year for England and Wales was 11.4 per 1,000.

Deaths in Quarters.

An analysis of the deaths in the four quarters of the year, shows 61 for the first quarter, 49 for the second quarter, 42 for the third quarter, and 57 for the fourth quarter.

DEATHS IN WARDS.

Year	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.	Total
1933	37	63	40	19	33	192
1934	26	49	27	30	41	173
1935	21	46	32	27	44	170
1936	38	47	34	36	36	191
1937	27	66	37	31	31	192
1938	33	57	26	36	38	190
1939	26	56	21	28	43	174
1940	19	80	31	30	52	212
1941	18	60	29	30	34	171
1942	19	62	27	30	45	183
1943	24	68	23	21	38	174
1944	27	55	30	29	23	164
1945	28	66	37	32	46	209

DEATH RATES.

	No. of Deaths	Male	Female	Death Rate in Wombwell	Adjusted	England & Wales
1933	192	105	87	10.5	(13.02)	12.3
1934	173	88	85	9.6	(11.9)	11.8
1935	170	109	61	9.4	(11.65)	11.7
1936	191	99	92	10.7	(13.2)	12.1
1937	192	118	74	10.8	(13.3)	12.4
1938	190	106	84	10.6	(13.1)	11.6
1939	174	99	75	9.7	(12.5)	12.1
1940	212	114	98	12.4	(14.2)	14.3
1941	171	102	69	9.9		12.9
1942	183	105	78	10.8		11.6
1943	174	94	80	10.3		12.1
1944	164	96	68	9.4		11.6
1945	209	121	88	11.9		11.4

Causes of Death.

The principal causes of death were in order of numerical importance : Cardiac Disease, Cancer, Respiratory Disease and Tuberculosis.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

Death Rate 1945	DISEASE	No. of Deaths in 1945	Increase or Decrease com- pared with 1944	Death Rate 1944
—	Enteric Fever	Nil	Nil	—
—	Smallpox	Nil	Nil	—
0.17	Measles	3	increase	0.0
0.0	Scarlet Fever	0	same	0.0
0.05	Whooping Cough	1	increase	0.0
0.0	Diphtheria	0	same	0.0
0.05	Influenza	1	same	0.05
0.39	Phthisis	7	decrease	0.51
0.16	Other Tuberculous Diseases	3	increase	0.0
1.4	Cancer	26	increase	1.2
0.0	Meningitis (Meningococcal)	Nil	same	0.0
1.1	Cerebral Haemorrhage and Arterio Sclerosis	20	increase	0.6
2.3	Organic Heart Disease	42	increase	2.1
1.19	Bronchitis	21	increase	0.4
0.7	Pneumonia	13	increase	0.51
0.22	Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	4	increase	0.0
2.7	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	2	increase	2.4
0.1	Appendicitis	2	same	0.1
0.0	Cirrhosis of Liver	Nil	same	0.0
0.62	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	11	increase	0.22
0.0	Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	same	0.0
0.0	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	0	decrease	0.05
0.5	Congenital Debility and Malforma- tion, including Premature Birth	9	increase	0.45
0.5	Violent Deaths	10	same	0.5
0.0	Suicide	0	decrease	0.15
0.5	Other Defined Diseases	10	decrease	0.84
0.22	Peptic Ulcer	4	increase	0.11
0.05	Diabetes	1	decrease	0.15
0.62	Ill Defined Diseases	11	same	0.62
11.9		209	increase	9.4
TOTAL DEATH RATE				
11.9				

There were 19 inquiries held by the Coroner in Wombwell during the year.

The causes of deaths as revealed by the inquests were :
Accidents (6), Coronary Thrombosis (4), Asphyxia and

Arterio-Sclerosis 2 each, Drowning, Nephritis, Leukaemia, Cancer and Cerebral Haemorrhage 1 each.

Year	Number of Inquiries	Coroner's Percentage of Inquests to Total Deaths
1933	4	2.08
1934	5	2.8
1935	4	2.3
1936	11	5.7
1937	7	3.6
1938	17	8.9
1939	14	8.04
1940	13	6.1
1941	11	6.4
1942	9	4.9
1943	10	5.7
1944	12	7.3
1945	19	9.09

Post Mortem Examinations were carried out in 20 cases.

Of still born babies (11) there were 9 interred at Wombwell Cemetery, and none at Hemingfield Cemetery.

Infantile Mortality.

The number of deaths under 1 year of age amounted to 25 as against 21 in 1944.

The death rate is 69.6 per 1,000 births as against 50.4 last year.

The causes of Infantile Deaths were as follows :

Pneumonia	9
Premature Birth and Congenital Debility								4
Gastritis	2
Asphyxia	2
Enteritis	1
Whooping Cough			1
Extroverted Bladder		1
Colitis	1
Spina Bifida	1
Erythroblastosis Foetalis			1
Hydrocephalus			1
Measles	1
								—
								25
								—

Of the 25 Infantile Deaths it will be seen that at least 17 were due to diseases contracted after birth and which could not be prevented by any Ante-Natal care.

Year	Number of Infantile Deaths, Wombwell		Infantile Death Rate Wombwell	
1933	28		83.3	
1934	16		50.0	
1935	16		49.07	
1936	18		59.8	
1937	12		39.4	
1938	17		53.6	
1939	14		42.8	
1940	15		46.5	
1941	15		43.8	
1942	16		49.2	
1943	27		69.2	
1944	21		50.4	
1945	25		69.6	

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.
Males	2	4	1	3	4
Females	—	4	2	2	3
	—	—	—	—	—
	2	8	3	5	7

There was no Illegitimate Death during the year.

The subject of Infantile Mortality is dealt with in detail under "Maternity and Child Welfare."

WARD STATISTICS.

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.	Total
Approximate Population	2329	5592	3223	2633	3763	17540
All Deaths	28	66	37	32	46	209
Births	56	112	63	53	75	359
Birth Rate	24.4	20.02	19.5	20.1	19.9	20.4
Death Rate	12.02	11.8	11.1	12.1	12.2	11.9
Infantile Deaths	2	8	3	5	7	25
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births	35.7	71.5	47.6	94.3	93.3	69.6

Infectious Diseases.

There were 6 deaths from Zymotic Diseases equal to a death rate of 0.34 per 1,000 as compared with 0.05 for 1944.

The causes of the Zymotic Diseases were as follows :

Scarlet Fever	0
Diphtheria	0
Whooping Cough	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)				2
Smallpox	0
Measles	3
Enteric Fever	0
						—
						6
						—

Zymotic Death Rate (Wombwell).

Year	Year	Year
1933—0.32	1938—0.22	1943—0.17
1934—0.33	1939—0.16	1944—0.05
1935—0.27	1940—0.1	1945—0.34
1936—0.28	1941—0.16	
1937—0.22	1942—0.35	

No use has been made during the year of the Shick and Dick Tests.

Under the Infectious Disease Notification Act there were notified 628 cases of Infectious Disease as follows :

- Scarlet Fever 41 (29 males and 12 females).
- Diphtheria 13 (5 males and 8 females).
- Puerperal Pyrexia 1.
- Erysipelas 7 (4 males and 3 females).
- Pneumonia 18 (12 males and 6 females).
- Tuberculosis (Respiratory) 18 (10 males and 8 females).
- Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory) 2 (both females).
- Measles 424 (212 males and 212 females).
- Whooping Cough 104 (49 males and 55 females).

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN WOMBWELL.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Encephalitis Lethargica	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Phthisis	Other Tubercu- lous Diseases	Small Pox	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Acute Poliomylitis	Whooping Cough	Measles
1933	77	25	—	—	15	8	79	1	23	6	—	4	1	—	—
1934	74	85	1	—	21	3	57	1	14	13	—	1	—	—	—
1935	127	53	—	—	19	7	48	1	15	3	—	1	—	—	—
1936	109	33	1	—	8	1	77	1	4	6	—	3	2	—	—
1937	56	43	—	—	21	4	53	3	19	6	—	—	—	—	—
1938	68	46	—	—	14	2	48	—	11	6	—	—	—	—	—
1939	31	25	1	—	20	2	53	3	14	5	—	—	—	2	2
1940	65	24	—	—	21	3	52	2	14	9	—	—	—	2	472
1941	26	15	—	—	12	1	61	—	12	7	—	4	—	159	88
1942	50	27	4	—	10	2	48	—	19	10	—	3	—	26	300
1943	40	15	—	—	19	—	35	2	18	6	—	4	—	54	197
1944	27	13	—	—	7	2	22	—	23	7	—	1	—	8	4
1945	41	13	—	—	7	1	18	—	18	2	—	—	—	104	424

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62 or 73.

Distribution in the Wards.

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.	Total
Measles	57	123	67	45	132	424
Whooping Cough ...	19	37	15	12	21	104
Diphtheria	1	7	1	1	3	13
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	5	7
Scarlet Fever ...	7	12	3	13	6	41
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia	2	7	1	2	6	18
Tuberculosis						
(Pulmonary) ...	2	8	1	3	4	18
Tuberculosis						
(Non-Pulmonary)	—	1	—	—	1	2

Removed to Hospital.

	S.E.	S.W.	C.	N.	H.	Total
Diphtheria	1	7	1	1	3	13
Scarlet Fever ...	1	2	1	4	3	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	1

Disease	Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	41	11	—
Diphtheria	13	13	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
Pneumonia	18	—	13
Erysipelas	7	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	104	—	1
Measles	424	—	3
Tuberculosis			
(Respiratory) ...	18	—	7
Tuberculosis			
(other forms) ...	2	—	3

Death Rates per 1,000 of all Infectious Diseases compared with England and Wales for 1945.

Disease	Wombwell	England & Wales
Scarlet Fever ...	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.02
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Enteric Fever ...	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.17	0.02
Influenza	0.05	0.08
Whooping Cough ...	0.05	0.02

Anthrax, Rabies, Malaria and Trench Fever.

No cases of these diseases occurred during the year.

Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia.

No case of Puerperal Fever occurred.

1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

No cases were notified.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

No cases were notified.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

No cases were notified.

Erysipelas.

Notifications were received of 7 cases of this disease as compared with 7 in the previous year. There were no deaths.

Enteric Fever.

There was no case of this disease notified during the year.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

There were 13 cases notified during the year as against 13 in 1944. There were no deaths.

The number of notifications of Diphtheria does not truly represent the incidence of the disease as several of the cases have on further clinical examination proved to be suffering from an ordinary septic throat.

The public are now more enlightened as to the value of immunising children and medical officers are ceasing to record so many deaths from this disease. Prophylatic measures with respect to Diphtheria become an economic as well as a humane proposition.

	Cases		Death Rate		
	notified	Case Rate	Deaths	Death Rate	England
	Wombwell	Wombwell	Wombwell	Wombwell	& Wales
1933	25	1.3	3	0.162	0.06
1934	85	4.7	3	0.16	0.10
1935	53	2.9	0	0.00	0.08
1936	33	1.8	4	0.2	0.07
1937	43	2.4	2	0.1	0.07
1938	46	2.5	1	0.05	0.07
1939	25	1.4	2	0.11	0.05
1940	24	1.4	1	0.05	0.06
1941	15	0.87	2	0.1	0.07
1942	27	1.5	2	0.1	0.05
1943	15	0.88	1	0.05	0.03
1944	13	0.74	0	0.0	0.02
1945	13	0.74	0	0.0	0.02

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases notified as suffering from Scarlet Fever in the Urban District in 1945 was 41 as compared with 27 for the previous year. The case rate was 2.3 compared with 1.5. No death occurred from the disease.

Mild cases of Scarlet Fever can be adequately treated at home and it is not desirable that unnecessary admissions to the Hospital for Infectious Disease should take place, the beds being able to be put to a better use.

In fact home treatment is preferable in such cases as removal to hospital needlessly exposes them to other cases of Scarlet Fever which may be due to a modification of the organism and not to the exact type that caused the mild case.

Every case of the disease notified was visited by the Chief Sanitary Inspector in order that the home conditions of the patient might be taken into account as a reason for institutional admission.

It is interesting to record that in spite of the larger number of scarlet fever cases remaining at home there has been no increase in the number of second cases in any house recorded as a result of these measures.

Whooping Cough.

There was one death from this disease registered during the year as compared with none in 1944.

Measles.

The number of deaths from this disease was 3 as compared with none in 1944.

MEASLES.

Year	Death Rate in Wombwell	Death Rate in England and Wales
1933	0.00	0.05
1934	0.16	0.09
1935	0.05	0.03
1936	0.05	0.07
1937	0.05	0.02
1938	0.15	0.04
1939	0.0	0.01
1940	0.0	0.02
1941	0.0	0.03
1942	0.0	0.01
1943	0.0	0.02
1944	0.0	0.01
1945	0.17	0.02

Influenza.

During 1945 there was one death from Influenza as compared with one in the previous year. The death rate was 0.05 as compared with 0.05 in 1944.

INFLUENZA.

Year	Death Rate in Wombwell	Death Rate in England and Wales
1933	0.27	0.57
1934	0.05	0.14
1935	0.05	0.18
1936	0.05	0.14
1937	0.39	0.45
1938	0.1	0.11
1939	0.16	0.21
1940	0.7	0.32
1941	0.05	0.19
1942	0.17	0.09
1943	0.11	0.37
1944	0.05	0.12
1945	0.05	0.08

Smallpox.

No cases occurred during the year in Wombwell.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There were no cases notified during the year.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis.

The deaths of children under two years of age from this disease numbered two as against one in the previous year.

This disease is not attended with anything like the death rate that it had 25 years ago. This improvement is due to better milk production and education of the people in more hygienic methods.

**Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years.
with Rates per 1,000 Births.**

Year	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births, Wombwell	Rate per 1,000 Births, England and Wales
1933	1	2.9	7.1
1934	0	0.0	5.5
1935	0	0.0	5.7
1936	0	0.0	5.9
1937	1	3.3	5.8
1938	0	0.0	5.5
1939	0	0.0	4.6
1940	1	3.1	4.6
1941	1	2.9	5.1
1942	1	3.7	5.2
1943	1	2.59	5.3
1944	1	2.4	4.8
1945	2	2.7	5.6

Bronchitis and Pneumonia.

The number of deaths from these two diseases was 34 as against 16 in 1944.

A total of 34 or over 16.2 per cent. of the total deaths recorded this year.

The total deaths from Pneumonia and Bronchitis etc., give a respiratory death rate of 1.62 per 1,000.

Year	Respiratory Death Rate	No. of Deaths
1933	1.7	32
1934	1.05	19
1935	1.17	20
1936	1.46	28
1937	0.88	17
1938	1.01	18
1939	0.89	16
1940	2.5	44
1941	0.85	15
1942	1.0	17
1943	1.8	31
1944	0.9	17
1945	1.62	34

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Age Group)

	Under												Over		
	1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65			
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Scarlet Fever	1	—	5	4	4	14	7	5	—	1	—
Diphtheria	1	—	1.	—	3	5	—	—	1	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	2	2	—	3	4	—	1	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Cancer.

Last year we had 26 deaths or 12.4 per cent. of the total deaths recorded with a death rate of 1.4. In 1944 we had 21 deaths with a rate of 1.2.

DEATHS FROM CANCER—Age Groups.

	0	1	2	3	4	5	15	25	45	65	75
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	13	6	5
Year	Deaths										Death Rate Wombwell
1933	16										0.87
1934	18										0.99
1935	16										0.94
1936	22										1.15
1937	22										1.2
1938	27										1.5
1939	20										1.1
1940	29										1.6
1941	33										1.9
1942	17										1.0
1943	16										0.9
1944	21										1.2
1945	26										1.4

During any campaign for the prevention of disease certain information concerning the disease is given to the public and many people believe that this brings about in the minds of the public, the notion of being ill ; thus suggesting that health talks do not carry out their purpose, namely, that of prevention, but rather the reverse. “Cancerphobia” is the fear of Cancer, and all health talks in connection with this disease, based upon the idea of hope, take an optimistic view of the disease, which being local at first, is curable - therefore no idea is given which should in any way increase the existing fear of Cancer. Early diagnosis of the disease followed by early operation and the use of radium have considerably lowered the death rate and will be the sheet anchor of the profession till the cause of cancer is discovered.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of the houses was carried out methodically after the removal of a case of acute infectious disease or at the termination of the illness by fumigation or spraying with Formalin.

Infected clothing in all other infectious cases was washed with Izal.

These should have been treated with a steam disinfecter which method is more scientific. Money spent on a steam disinfecter would be money well spent. Much of the money spent on a steam disinfecter would be saved by having a smaller number of cases of infectious disease.

45 premises have been disinfected by the disinfecting attendant.

All library books which are in infected houses are disinfected.

Terminal disinfection following upon infectious disease has, amongst some local authorities, fallen into disrepute and although the modern idea on the spread of infectious disease is that it is by means of one person to another, I think it would be a mistake to discontinue disinfection of clothing, bedding and rooms. Disinfection serves as an object lesson for the public rightly to regard infectious diseases in a serious manner, and terminal disinfection has the advantage in bringing about a more complete and thorough cleansing of a room and articles than would otherwise obtain, and although the cost of such disinfection is considerable, I am in favour of continuing the practice.

Tuberculosis.

Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases caused 10 deaths against 9 in 1944 (7 Respiratory and 3 Non-Respiratory).

The Phthisis death rate is 0.39 per 1,000 (0.51 in 1944).

Phthisis Death Rate (Wombwell).

Year	Year	Year
1933—0.93	1934—0.67	1935—0.44
1936—0.6	1937—0.73	1938—0.44
1939—0.55	1940—0.41	1941—0.46
1942—0.46	1943—0.65	1944—0.51
1945—0.39		

20 notifications of Tuberculosis were received during the year, as compared with 30 in 1944.

Of the 10 deaths from Tuberculosis 3 (30 per cent.) had not been notified prior to death, and were only heard of through the Registrar's returns.

The occupations of those who died during the year from Tuberculosis were :

Occupation	Number
Clerk	1
Miner	1
Bye Product Worker ...	1
Scholar	1
Housewife	3
Tailoress	1
Painter	1
None	1
	—
	10
	—

The occupation of the cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year were :

Occupation	Number
Miner	5
Scholar	4
Housewife	3
Fitter	2
Post Office Clerk	1
Postman	1
Platelayer	1
Tailoress	1
Clerk	1
Domestic	1
	—
	20
	—

Age Periods	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary
0	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—
5	1	1	—	1
10	2	—	—	—
15	7	—	3	1
20	2	—	—	—
25	1	—	1	—
35	1	1	—	—
45	4	—	2	1
65	—	—	1	—
and up	—	—	—	—
	18	2	7	3

There were 6 admissions into, and 10 discharges from the various Sanatoria during the year.

Year	Admissions to Sanatoria	Discharges from Sanatoria
1933	23	15
1934	15	17
1935	12	15
1936	12	9
1937	14	10
1938	7	12
1939	12	13
1940	7	7
1941	3	2
1942	8	5
1943	13	7
1944	11	6

The Tuberculosis Dispensary at 46, Church Street, Barnsley, is the receiving station for your district. Here the cases are examined, and if the diagnosis of Tuberculosis is confirmed, the Tuberculosis Officer recommends the treatment needed, i.e., whether Sanatoria, Dispensary or Domiciliary.

The County Council is the administrative authority for Tuberculosis.

During the year 74 specimens were sent to the County Hall Laboratory for bacteriological examination as follows :

Blood for Widal Reaction	6
Sputa for T.B.	5
Swabs for B. Diphtheria	33
Urine for General Examination	7
Milks for Bacterial Content	21
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	1
Faeces for T.A.B.	1
					—
					74
					—

Circulatory Diseases.

42 deaths occurred from diseases of the heart (38 in 1944). This is equal to a death rate of 2.3 per 1,000 (2.1 per 1,000 in 1944).

Water Supply.

Wombwell is served with water from the Dearne Valley Water Board (comprising Wombwell, Hoyland, Darfield, Goldthorpe, etc.)

The water supplied to Wombwell by the board actually comes from four sources and is mixed. One is from an artesian well, this water is of pure quality, extremely hard (38 degrees Clark's process) and has no plumbo-solvent action. Another is obtained from the Sheffield Corporation is a soft water of a peaty colour, and is chlorinated. A third source of supply is from the Dearne Valley Colliery and is chlorinated.

The supply of water to some parts of the town was not regular nor adequate during 1945, but the Water Board is undertaking an extensive scheme to remedy this.

Rivers and Streams.

No new pollution of any rivers or streams was noticed during the year, but there has been for years evidence of solids in suspension in Bullings Dyke coming in large quantities from the Bye-Product Works of a Colliery.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

I am indebted to Mr. J. R. Brittain, Manager, Sewage Disposal Works, for the following report.

“The Tanks have been cleaned out as required and 1910 tons of Sludge containing 94 per cent. moisture have been treated on the land at the works.

233 tons of Sludge have been removed from the lagoons containing 74 per cent. moisture, these have been carted away by the Council's carts.

63 sets of Samples of Crude Sewage and Final Effluent have been tested by the four-hour Oxygen Absorption Test and the average percentage of purification was 94.5.

Schools.

The Sanitary condition of the schools in the district is good.

Any minor defects that occurred were referred to the Education Committee and were put right.

The Health Visitors (two of whom are also the school Nurses) and the Attendance Officer notify me of the first cases of infection occurring in any of the schools.

There were no class closures but individual exclusion was again successfully employed.

The work of the School Clinic and School Inspection is administered by the County Council.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The number of children under one year of age who died during 1945 was 25 (14 males and 11 females) which represents an Infantile Mortality of 69.6 per 1,000 births. The Infantile Mortality in 1944 was 50.4.

Neo-Natal Deaths.

The number of deaths of Infants in the first month of life was 9 against 15 in 1944.

The causes of deaths during the first month of life, apart from those cases which can be termed infectious, are due to conditions which have obtained prior to birth, and it is only by a routine ante-natal examination of the mother that any reduction can be brought about in these neo-natal deaths.

Deaths Rates.

Year	Infantile Mortality Wombwell	Infantile Mortality England and Wales
1933	83.3	64
1934	50.0	59
1935	49.07	57
1936	59.8	59
1937	39.4	58
1938	53.6	53
1939	42.8	50
1940	46.5	55
1941	43.8	59
1942	49.2	49
1943	69.2	49
1944	50.4	46
1945	69.6	46

Deaths in Age Groups.

Of the total (25) infant deaths, 2 or 8 per cent. took place in the first day, 5 or 20 per cent. in the first week and 9 or 36 per cent. in the first month.

Contraceptives.

Contraceptive methods as taught at Voluntary Control Clinics necessitate a certain amount of intelligent co-operation of the women attending. We have not at present sufficient definite information as to the dangers physically and psychologically which the continued use of contraceptive methods produce, but we are aware of the fact that after prolonged contraceptive methods have been employed sterility may ensue and it is a tremendous responsibility to undertake a practice

which may result in a fall in the birth rate greater than has yet been experienced owing to the large and increasing proportion of sterile women in the population.

Still Births.

The number of still births does not vary to any extent from year to year.

The number during the year was 11 or giving a rate of 29.7 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

Births Notified (Live and Still).

Year	Live Births Registered	Still Births	Total Births Live & Still	Percentage of
				Still Births to Total Births
1933	336	12	348	3.4
1934	320	21	341	6.1
1935	326	8	334	2.3
1936	301	13	314	4.3
1937	304	13	317	4.1
1938	317	5	322	1.5
1939	326	17	343	4.9
1940	319	20	339	5.9
1941	342	12	354	3.3
1942	325	8	333	2.4
1943	390	15	405	3.7
1944	416	6	424	1.3
1945	359	11	370	2.9

Maternal Mortality.

No case occurred during the year. The last maternal death occurred in 1941.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

51 sessions were held through the year, 181 women have made 855 attendances giving an average of 16.7 per session.

The number of Births notified during the year (exclusive of still births) was 229.

All were notified by Midwives.

Home Visiting.

First visits were paid by the Health Visitors (one wholetime and two half-time employed by the Council) to 235 infants. The numbers of re-visits during and over the first year were 1364 and 3847. 95 ante-natal visits were made. Only by frequent visits can errors in feeding and management of the young child be detected and rectified in addition to which by frequent visits, absenteeism from the Infant Welfare Centres can be reduced.

A complete summary of the work of the Health Visiting staff is appended :

Births.						
First Visits	235
Re-visits during the year				1364
Re-visits over the first year				3847
Ante-Natal Visits			95
Still Births Visits			7
Other Visits	42
						<hr/> 5590 <hr/>

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

There are two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres for attending to the health of expectant and nursing mothers, and of children under five years of age.

One in Wombwell Free Library on Tuesday afternoons and one in Jump Welfare Hall on Thursday afternoons.

At the Wombwell Centre, where 46 sessions were held, there have attended 3764 children, a weekly average of 81.8. 226 new babies have joined, of these 219 were under one year and 7 over that age.

The doctor examined 974 children during the year, an average of 21.17 per session.

At the Jump Centre, where 52 sessions were held, 63 new babies have joined during the year, 61 of these were under 1 year and 2 over that age.

There were 1482 attendances at this centre, an average of 28.5 weekly, and 561 children were examined by the doctor, an average of 10.78 per session.

Payment of Fees to Midwives in Necessitous Cases.

Since July, 1937, the Midwives Act (administered by the County Council) has been in operation and the salaries of the municipal midwives are now paid by the County Council.

Home Helps.

A system of supplying Home Helps at confinement and for 14 days thereafter - where no relative is available - has been adopted by you and so far has proved very satisfactory, but is not much used. During the war years we have been unable to supply any Home Helps owing to shortage of labour, this condition of affairs still remains.

Grants to Necessitous Mothers and Children.

Mothers and children who receive support are required to attend the Infant Welfare Centre so that all grants issued are definitely known to be on medical grounds. The centres are not to be regarded as milk depots where mothers can attend for the sole purpose of obtaining milk.

The centres exist primarily for medical advice and grants are given after medical inspection.

Artificial Light Centre for Non-Tubercular Children under School age.

This centre was opened on 23rd July, 1927, and there are two sessions weekly, Monday and Thursday. During 1945 there were 96 sessions and 1912 attendances have been made. The cases treated are those recommended by the Medical Officer of the Infant Welfare Clinics and included Rickets, Anaemia, Impetigo, Debility, Bronchitis, Adenitis, Eczema, etc. There has again been a sustained improvement in conditions treated by Ultra Violet Radiation.

2 S500 Alpine Sun Lamps, Floor Model, fitted with self-striding electronic discharge arc tubes are used. A Sollux lamp, with localising cones and filters, is also in much use.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

The Health Department consists of the Medical Officer of Health who is a part-time officer. Half of his salary is provided by the West Riding County Council under Section 109 of the Local Government Act, 1933. He holds the Diploma of Public Health and is the Poor Law Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Wombwell District of the West Riding County Council.

He is not now engaged in private practice.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is a whole-time officer and is paid by your authority (half the salary being provided by the West Riding County Council under Section 109 of the Local Government Act, 1933). He holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the certificate for the Examination of Meat and Other Foods. An additional Sanitary Inspector is also employed by your Authority.

Three Nurses (two of whom are engaged half-time by the County Council).

Superintendent Nurse holds the C.M.B. Certificate, is General Hospital Trained, and holds the New Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Second Nurse holds the C.M.B. Certificate, is General Hospital trained and is an approved Health Visitor. The Third Nurse holds the C.M.B. Certificate and is General Hospital trained.

Professional Nursing in the Homes.

A District Nurse (General Hospital Training Certificate) is engaged to serve the whole township and is supplied by a voluntary agency, the Wombwell Town Land Trust, with a grant by your authority.

Infectious Disease Visiting.

In times of epidemics, i.e. measles, one of the Health Visitors is detailed off for the house visiting of these cases.

Midwives.

The number of midwives practising in Wombwell is 6 (5 Municipal midwives and 1 independent midwife.)

Sanitary Inspector.

The work consists of the ordinary work of the office as defined by the Sanitary Offices Regulation, 1935.

The Sanitary Inspector follows up all the notifications of infectious diseases, fully investigating each case and furnishing the Medical Officer with a report which is filed for reference. He arranges for removal of such cases as are necessary to hospital and carries out the necessary disinfection of the premises. Inspections are regularly carried out upon House Premises, Slaughterhouses, Workshops, Cowsheds, Schools and Vans. Food inspection of all kinds and destruction of condemned foodstuffs are within his duties.

All nuisances reported are followed up until remedied.

List of Local Acts and Provisional or Special Orders relating to the District.

Wombwell Local Gas Act, 1879.

Wombwell Order, 1913.

Wombwell Order, 1915.

Wombwell Gas Order, 1931 (relating to the Council's Gas Undertaking).

Dearne Valley Water Act, 1920.

Electric Lighting Orders Confirmation (No. 3) Act, 1912.

Dearne District Light Railways Order, 1915.

Dearne District Light Railways (Amendment) Order, 1921.

Dearne District Light Railways (Amendment) Order, 1924.

Wombwell Urban (Offensive Trades) Confirmation Order, 1927.

Dearne District Traction Act, 1933.

List of Adoptive Acts (or parts of Acts) and Byelaws in Force.

Parts 2, 3 and 4 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act, 1890).

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Section 2, Notification of Births Act, 1907.

Sections 79, 80, 81, 84, 85 and 86 of Part VII, Sections 88 and 90 of Part VIII and Part IX of the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1907.

Parts II, III, IV, V, VI and X of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

Parts II, III, IV and V of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Bye-laws as to new Streets and Buildings, Slaughterhouses, Nuisances, Tents, Vans and Sheds, Hackney Carriages, Public Baths, Smoke Abatement, Pleasure Grounds, Cleansing of Footpaths.

Pavements.

A noticeable feature in connection with the condition of the pavements during periods of rainfall might be mentioned here as affecting the health of the people. This is in reference to the objectionable practice of down-covers discharging roof water on to the pavements where it flows sometimes in the form of quite a stream into the gutter. Pedestrians very quickly get their boots or shoes wet through on their way to work and school children may sit during the morning with wet feet in the schoolroom and as is well known, cold and wet feet are predisposing causes to various illnesses including colds and other catarrhal conditions.

Care of Illegitimate Children.

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2866, the Moral Welfare Officer has co-operated with the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. The following is the second report I have received under this arrangement

Sheffield Diocesan Moral Welfare Council
Wath and Tankersley Deaneries.

Report of cases visited in Wombwell, Hemingfield, Jump, in co-operation with Wombwell M. and C.W. Committee under Circular 2866 (Care of the Illegitimate Child). From 1st February, 1945 - 31 January, 1946.

No. of cases visited	15
Married Women	7
Single Women	8

Involving 12 children dealt with as follows :

Adoptions

Children of Married Women	...	4
Children of Single Women	2

Fostered	—
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Kept by Mother :

Children of Married Women	...	—
Children of Single Women	—

Absorbed into the Home :

Children of Married Women	...	2
Children of Single Women	3

Still under Supervision :

Children of Married Women	...	1
Children of Single Women	3
Expectant Married Women	...	1
Expectant Single Women	1

Babies Still-born or died	3
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Children in Homes	1
-------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Affiliation Orders or Private Agreements obtained	2
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

In two cases of single women it is the second illegitimate child. In one case the first baby had been adopted and the mother is supporting the second child in a Home. In the other case both children have been kept and the mother has married the father of the first child.

Of the babies who have died, two were of single women, both dying when under a month old and the third was the child of a married woman, dying of pneumonia when about four months old, this child had been absorbed into the home and was accepted by the husband on the same footing as his own children.

Swimming Baths.

I am indebted to Mr. G. R. Johnson, Baths Manager, for the following report in the swimming baths for the year 1945.

“The pre-war popularity of the swimming baths was immediately re-established when, on the 25th June, 1945, the baths were re-opened for swimming after being used as a First Aid Post for the whole period of the war.

The total number of bathers admitted was 48,409. Out of this total 1,084 were evening school pupils attending for instruction in swimming and life-saving.

School children unfortunately did not attend for instructional purposes, due to the opening date of the baths being so late in the season, but the vast number of children who visited the establishment, together with the enthusiasm they showed, points to a successful commencement of school instructional classes for the 1946 period.

The swimming bath water is treated with a chlorine-ammonia system which, with the aid of three modern filters, keeps it quite sterile and at a high standard of bacterial purity.

An electrically driven pump keeps the water in constant circulation and is capable of completely turning it over in a period of less than three hours.”

Premature Infants.

The particulars of Premature Infants are entered on the notification of birth card which provides space for the same and which has been in use in this district from the beginning.

During the year ten infants were born who weighed $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth.

9 Premature Infants were born during the year at homes in Wombwell, two of these died during the first 24 hours and 6 were surviving at the end of one month.

The suggestions given in Ministry of Health Circular 20/1944 are being carried out as far as is at present possible and the rest are under consideration by the appropriate Committee of my Council.

Infestation by Head Lice.

Acting on the Ministry of Health's Circular, the three Health Visitors have concentrated on the education of the mothers in the cleanliness and freedom from vermin of their children, advocating regular weekly washing and daily brushing and combing of the hair. The homes in each Health Visitor's district have been classified and the Health Visitors have concentrated on those most in need of attention. Regular examinations are also made in school and at the clinics.

Bottles of Lethane Oil and a consignment of Sacker Combs are kept at the Clinics and sold to all requiring them.

Scabies.

Bottles of Benzyl Benzoate are kept in stock at the Clinics and sold to all the known cases of Scabies.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. PICKUP.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOMBWELL

Report of the **CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND** **CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT** *for 1945.*

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wombwell Urban District Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the district for the year 1945. In doing so I desire to acknowledge the support received from the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Officials of other departments and the two Clerks in the Public Health Department.

During the year only a modicum of work was accomplished in securing repairs to houses and such repairs were, due to the shortage of labour and materials, confined to essential repairs only. With so little having been done during the years of war the ordinary gradual deterioration of property has been intensified and in many cases owners of property have appeared quite satisfied to rely on the excuse that repairs could not be executed owing to the scarcity of labour and materials.

The housing problem, in common with all other local authorities, becomes more acute each successive year and now that men are returning from the Forces in greater numbers overcrowding is growing at an alarming rate. No proper survey to ascertain the extent of overcrowding has yet been possible, but the Collector who has charge of the letting of Council Houses has an extensive list of applicants for houses.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 15 dairy farms within the area on which are kept an average of 333 milk cows. The herds vary in number from 5 to 160 and are housed in 30 registered cowsheds.

45 visits to farms were recorded, but for various reasons the pre-war standard of cleanliness and methods of production have not been maintained on farms where ordinary milk is produced. Clean overalls and caps are seldom seen during milking operations, sterilisation by steam of milking utensils is not yet the rule and in some cases where milk is retailed immediately after production it is not always cooled. With the return to the farms of experienced labour your Inspectors will use every means provided to recover the high standard which the district achieved and maintained in the years preceding the war.

One dairy farm, the largest in your area, with a herd of over 150 cows is licensed by the County Council to produce Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk and there are 5 other dairy farms producing Accredited Milk under licence from the same authority. Approximately 77 per cent. of the milk produced within your area is sold under licences granted in accordance with the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936. Of this designated milk 62 per cent. is Tuberculin Tested.

One producer of Accredited Milk went temporarily out of business towards the close of the year on account of open-cast coal workings on most of his land.

21 samples of ordinary (raw) milk were taken during the year and examined for keeping quality by the Methylene Blue Test, 15 of these or 71 per cent. were satisfactory. Inspectors from the County Council come out and take similar samples from designated herds and of 5 samples taken all were satisfactory.

Purveyors of Milk.

There are on the register 16 retail and 5 wholesale purveyors of milk. In addition a number of small shopkeepers

sell milk in sealed bottles delivered to them bi-weekly by large dairy companies.

Slaughterhouses.

There are 10 privately owned slaughterhouses within your district. These have not been used during the war years except for the occasional slaughtering of cottagers' pigs. One slaughterhouse, the largest, is used as the receiving and distributing depot for meat sent to the local butchers' pool.

Food Premises, Shops and Markets.

24 visits were made to shops and other premises where food is prepared or stored for sale and 127 visits were made to your markets.

Small quantities of foodstuffs submitted for inspection were examined and dealt with according to circumstances. These consisted of 86 lbs. of bone-tainted beef, 36 lbs. of imported mutton, 104 lbs. of bacon, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of butter and 46 lbs. of margarine, all of which was returned by the vendors to the Ministry of Food Agents through trade channels. 24 lbs. of cheese, 10 lbs. of canned meats, 68 fish cakes and 5 stones of cod-fish fillets were used after boiling as feeding stuffs for animals and 47 tins of other foodstuffs were dealt with according to the condition of the contents.

Factories Act, 1937.

There are on the register 48 Factories as follows :—

Factories with Mechanical Power	36
Factories without Mechanical Power	12

Included in the above are 14 bakehouses to which 70 inspections were made and 31 visits were made to other factories. Informal action was taken to deal with six breaches of the Factories Act, all relating to sanitary accommodation.

Shops Act, 1934.

Shopkeepers generally are aware of the Health provisions of the Act and on the whole provide the necessary facilities as required by the Act. 4 shops without adequate water supplies and 1 concerning heating were dealt with during the year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

There are on the register five premises registered for the sale, or the manufacture for the purpose of sale, of ice cream. Two of these have small electrically driven freezers fixed in shops, one where ice cream is delivered to the premises wrapped in special containers, and two premises where larger quantities are manufactured and sold wholesale and retail. All were visited during the year and found to be kept in a clean condition.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

There are four of these temporary dwellings, one in a field at Mapplebeck, two at the top of Garden Grove, Hemingfield and one at Kitroyd, Jump. The latter is occupied by an old man who refuses to leave his caravan, or remove it from the unlicensed site, although a Court Order was obtained in 1941 for its removal and later a daily penalty was imposed by the Court because the occupier refused to comply with the Order.

Verminous Premises.

Two privately owned houses and one Council house have been disinfested during the year. These figures by no means indicate the extent of verminous infestation, particularly in the older type of dwelling house.

Terminal Disinfection.

Disinfection was carried out at 45 houses from which cases of infectious disease had been removed to hospital or treated at home.

Disinfectant is also supplied free for domestic use to all householders who apply for it.

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades within the Wombwell district.

Rodent Control.

20 complaints were received during the year of rat infestations. All the premises were visited and in 11 cases poison baits were laid free of charge, 2 occupiers were charged the cost of servicing business premises, 2 treated their own premises and the remaining 5 complaints are awaiting treatment by block control.

Poison baiting and gassing with Cyanide is carried out on the refuse tips.

Public Lavatories.

There is only one public lavatory within the township and this is situated in Station Road. The department has an arrangement whereby other lavatories (privately owned) are left open for the use of the public, but this is entirely unsatisfactory. The Council own sites in Stonyford Road and Park Street and the erection of urinal accommodation in these positions would relieve the situation considerably. Schemes have been prepared by your Surveyor for the provision of additional public lavatories along with suitable sites at Hemingfield and Jump and I would recommend that the Public Health Committee again give consideration to the provision of additional conveniences in the near future.

Closet Accommodation.

Type of Convenience	No.	Percentage
Water Closets	4796	98.5
Waste Water Closets ...	10	0.2
Pail Closets	22	0.5
Privy Middens	41	0.8

Public Cleansing.

COLLECTION.—This is carried out entirely by the Council's employees. During the year 3180 loads of refuse were collected and all with the exception of a few loads to allotment holders was taken to the tips at Brampton and Jump.

	No. of Loads	No. of Tons	No. of Working Days	Daily Average Loads	Daily Average Weight Tons
50 cwt. Lorry (Guy)	833	2082	275	3.02	7.57
45 cwt. Lorry (Karrier)	1012	2277	294	3.44	7.75
40 cwt. Lorry (Commer)	563	1126	165	3.41	6.82
40 cwt. Lorry (Bantam)	772	1544	230	3.36	6.71

It is estimated that the 3180 loads weighed 7030 tons.

The estimated weight collected per 1,000 premises was 1438 tons 5 cwts.

The estimated weight collected per 1,000 population was 400 tons 16 cwts.

The average estimated amount of refuse collected from each house during the year is 1 ton 8.76 cwts.

DISPOSAL.—All the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping as follows :—

Place	No. of Loads	Percentage
Brampton	2189	68.84
Jump	827	26.00
Allotments	164	5.16

Cleansing Costs. .

	Collection			Disposal			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Total Costs ...	4026	0	0	514	0	0	4540	0	0
Cost per esti- mated ton ...	0	11	5	0	1	6	0	12	11
Cost per 1,000 of population ...	229	10	8	29	6	1	258	16	9
Cost per 1,000 houses ...	823	13	0	105	3	1	928	16	1
Gross Costs ...	4396	0	0	955	0	0	5351	0	0
Income	370	0	0	441	0	0	811	0	0
Nett Costs ...	4026	0	0	514	0	0	4540	0	0

The rate required for public cleansing (street cleansing excluded) was 1s. 7.07d.

Trade Refuse.

The Council has arrangements to remove trade refuse from 16 different premises. Some trade refuse is removed free, on account of its salvage value.

Sanitary Inspection of District.

A total of 958 inspections were made to investigate nuisances and 108 revisits were recorded,

402 informal notices were served in connection with the above and 332 were complied with, leaving 70 nuisances to be carried forward.

The following defects were remedied after the service of informal or formal notices, or after interview with persons concerned.

Repairs to Houses.

Made dry - Roof	23
Made dry - Spouting	22
Made Dry - Pointing or Structural Plaster	...					33
Floors repaired	10
Plasterwork repaired	17
Window Frames repaired or renewed	...					16
Door Frames and Doors repaired or renewed						7
Fire-ranges repaired or renewed				17
Fire-backs repaired or renewed			3
Coppers re-set or renewed			14
Sinks renewed	11
Sash cords renewed	19
Chimneys repaired	6
Water Services repaired		3
Damp Proof Courses provided			2
Cupboard Doors repaired or renewed	...					2
Dangerous Steps repaired		1

Drainage.

Drains reconstructed, repaired or opened out	24
Sink Waste Pipes repaired or renewed ...	19
Inspection Chambers provided or repaired ...	10
Sink Gullies renewed	24
Vent Shafts provided or repaired	5

Sanitary Accommodation.

Water Closet Fittings repaired or renewed ...	81
Water Service Pipes repaired	165
Water Closet Structural repairs	28
Dust Bins renewed or provided	160

Miscellaneous.

Yards Paved or Pavements renewed ...	3
Steps repaired	1
Accumulations of Refuse cleared	1
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	1
Coal Shoot Grate renewed	1
Larger Diameter Water Services installed ...	8
Sanitary Conveniences cleansed	1

Referred to other Departments :—

Water Board 15

Surveyor 7

19 of the above matters were dealt with by statutory notices where owners or persons concerned failed within a reasonable time to abate nuisances or to execute works required.

All of these notices were served under the Public Health Act, 1936, 4 relating to nuisances, 7 to sanitary accommodation, 7 to inadequate water supplies and one to the paving and draining of a yard.

Salvage Reclamation.

The income derived from salvage during the year ended 31st March, 1946 was £784. The following is a list of articles salvaged along with the amounts received from the sale of same.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	65	19	2	—	432	11	7
"Black" Scrap	7	19	3	—	26	3	2
Aluminium	—	2	2	5	2	7	1
Copper	—	1	—	2	1	16	8
Brass	—	6	—	6	6	0	9
Zinc & Spelter	—	1	3	26	1	1	9
Lead	1	3	3	16	14	2	11
Pewter	—	—	—	8	0	10	0
Bottles & Jars	8	2	—	17	67	9	0
Cinder	3	—	—	—	0	0	0
Rags	7	11	3	18	113	18	5
Sacking	1	9	—	22	4	4	3
String	—	6	—	3	1	16	4
Bones	13	9	2	14	70	15	7
Cullet	14	16	1	—	25	18	5
Discarded							
Footwear	1	2	—	—	6	12	0
Bonus, Ministry of Supply					8	10	11

The total weight of salvage was 125 tons 12 cwts.

Kitchen waste is collected direct by stockfeeders from 40 communal bins situated in different parts of the township.

There are still a number of salvage stewards who assiduously look after salvage sacks for waste paper and metal containers for bones and I would like to express my sincere thanks for their continued efforts in salvage reclamation.

Your obedient servant

H. WARD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

